

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 113307

12

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R 151743Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: TECHNOLOGY FOR THE AMERICAN HOME--BAKU CLOSING

DATE

REF: MOSCOW 6589-U

1. EMBASSY SHOULD VIGOROUSLY OPPOSE ATTEMPTS TO REDUCE NUMBER OF SHOWING DAYS BELOW THE "TWENTY-EIGHT ACTUAL SHOWING DAYS-SPECIFIED IN SECTION IV, PARA ONE OF ANNEX TO CULTURAL AGREEMENT OF JUNE 19, 1973.

2. OVER PERIOD OF YEARS SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE ATTEMPTED BY ONE DEVICE OR ANOTHER TO CHIP AWAY AT TOTAL EXPOSURE TIME OF OUR EXHIBITS, EITHER BY ATTEMPTING TO CUT THE NUMBER OF HOURS OPEN PER DAY OR REDUCING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS. THESE ATTEMPTS HAVE REPEATEDLY BEEN BEATEN BACK, ALTHOUGH NOT WITHOUT DIFFICULTY, THROUGH STRONG EMBASSY OPPOSITION AND BY FORCEFULLY REMINDING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (OCCASIONALLY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS WELL) OF THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE TERMS OF THE BASIC AGREEMENT, LOCAL AUTHORITIES' OBJECTIONS NOTWITHSTANDING. WE BELIEVE THAT FAILURE ON OUR PART TO INSIST ON 28 DAYS WOULD NOT ONLY BE UNFORTUNATE FOR BAKU SHOWING BUT

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PAGE 02 STATE 113307

WOULD WEAKEN OUR POSITION IN FUTURE INSTANCES OF THIS KIND

WHICH ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO ARISE. KISSINGER

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